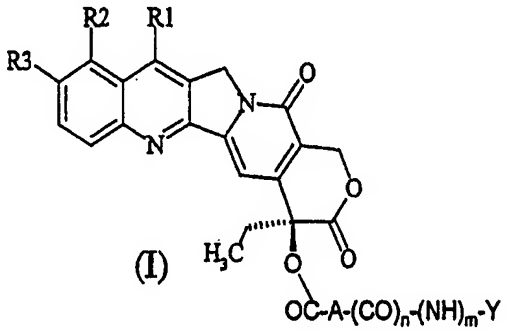
## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Original) Formula (I) compounds




(I)

where:

A is saturated or unsaturated straight or branched $C_1$-$C_8$ alkyl, $C_3$-$C_{10}$ cycloalkyl, straight or branched $C_3$-$C_{10}$ cycloalkyl-$C_1$-$C_8$ alkyl;
when n and m are equal to 1, then Y is saturated or unsaturated straight or branched $C_1$-$C_8$ alkyl substituted with $NR_{12}R_{13}$ or $N^+R_{12}R_{13}R_{14}$, where $R_{12}$, $R_{l3}$ and $R_{14}$, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen or straight or branched $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, or Y is BCOOX, where B is a residue of an amino acid, X is H, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, benzyl or phenyl, substituted in the available positions with at least one group selected from $C_1$-$C_4$ alkoxy, halogen, nitro, amino, $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl, or,
if n and m are both 0; Y is 4-trimethylammonium-3-hydroxybutanoyl, both in the form of inner salt and in the form of a salt with an anion of a pharmaceutically acceptable acid, or Y is $N^+R_{12}R_{13}R_{14}$, as defined above;
$R_1$ is hydrogen or a -C($R_5$)=N-O-$R_4$ group, in which $R_4$ is hydrogen or a straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkyl or $C_1$-$C_5$ alkenyl group, or a $C_3$-$C_{10}$ cycloalkyl group, or a straight or branched ($C_3C_{10}$) cycloalkyl - ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl group, or a $C_6$-$C_{14}$ aryl group, or a straight or branched ($C_6$-$C_{14}$) aryl - ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl group, or a heterocydic group or a straight or branched heterocyclo - ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl group, said heterocycic group containing at least one heteroatom selected from an atom of nitrogen, optionally substituted with a ($C_1$-$C_5$)

alkyl group, and/or an atom of oxygen and/or of sulphur; said alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, aryl-alkyl, heterocydic or heterocyclo-alkyl groups may optionally be substituted with one or more groups selected from: halogen, hydroxy, $C_1$-$C_5$ alkyl, $C_1$-$C_5$ alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -$NR_6R_7$, where $R_6$ and $R_7$, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl, the –COOH group or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable esters; or the –$CONR_8R_9$ group, where $R_8$ and $R_9$, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl; or $R_4$ is a ($C_6$-$C_{10}$) aroyl or ($C_6$-$C_{10}$) arylsulphonyl residue, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from: halogen, hydroxy, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkyl, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -$NR_{10}R_{11}$, where $R_{10}$ and $R_{11}$, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkyl; or $R_4$ is a polyaminoalkyl residue; or $R_4$ is a glycosyl residue; $R_5$ is hydrogen, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkyl, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkenyl, $C_3$-$C_{10}$ cycloalkyl, straight or branched ($C_3$-$C_{10}$) cycloalkyl - ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl, $C_6$-$C_{14}$ aryl, straight or branched ($C_6$-$C_{14}$) aryl - ($C_1$-$C_5$) alkyl; $R_2$ and $R_3$, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, hydroxyl, straight or branched $C_1$-$C_5$ alkoxy; the N1-oxides, the racemic mixtures, their individual enantiomers, their individual diastereoisomers, their mixtures, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

2. (Original) Compounds according to claim 1, in which, in formula (I), n and m are 1.

3. (Original) Compounds according to claim 1, in which, in formula (I), n and m are 0.

4. (Original) Compounds according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:
(E)-7-tert-butoxyiminomethyl-20-O-(4-trimethyl-ammonium-3-hydroxy)butanoyl-camptothecin bromide;
(E)-7-tert-butoxyiminomethyl-20-O-(4-trimethyl-ammonium)butanoyl-camptothecin bromide;
(E)-7-tert-butoxyiminomethyl-20-O-hemisuccinyl-camptothecin;
(E)-7-tert-butoxyiminomethyl-20-O-[2-(dimethylamino)ethylamino]succinylcamptothecin hydrochloride;
20-O-(benzylglicy)succinyl-camptothecin;
20-O-(terbutylglycyl)succinyl-camptothecin bromide;

7-ter-butoxyiminomethyl-20-O-(terbutylglycyl)succinyl-camptothecin;
20-O-(glycyl)succinyl-camptothecin;
20-O-(2-methoxyphenylglycyl)succinyl-camptothecin;
7-ter-butoxyiminomethyl-20-O-(2-methoxy-phenylglycyl)
succinyl-camptothecin.

5. (Original) Process for the preparation of compounds according to claim 1, where n and m are 0, comprising:

a) reaction of the camptothecin, optionally substituted with the $R_1$, $R_2$ and $R_3$ groups defined above, with a carboxylic acid bearing a leaving group ω to obtain the respective ester in position 20;

b) substitution of said leaving group with the Y group.

6. (Original) Process for the preparation of compounds according to claim 1, where n and m are 1, comprising:

a) reaction of the camptothecin, optionally substituted with the $R_1$, $R_2$ and $R_3$ groups defined above, with a carboxylic acid with 3 to 11 carbon atoms, to obtain the respective hemiester in position 20;

b) transformation of the free carboxylic group of said hemiester to the respective amide -NH-Y.

7. (Currently amended) Compounds according to ~~any of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, as medicaments.

8. (Currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to ~~claims 1-4~~ claim 1, in admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles and excipients.

9. (Currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to ~~claims 1-4~~ claim 1, in admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles and excipients and optionally in combination with another active ingredient.

10. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, in which the other active ingredient is an anticancer agent.

11. (Currently amended) Use of a compound according to ~~claims 1-4~~ claim 1, for the preparation of a medicament endowed with topoisomerase I inhibiting activity.

12. (Original) Use according to claim 11, for the preparation of a medicament useful for the treatment of tumours.

13. (Original) Use according to claim 11, for the preparation of a medicament useful for the treatment of parasitic or viral infections.